

Criminal, Family, & Consumer Law Resource in & around Houston, Texas (June 2005)*

<i>Issue</i>	<i>Organization Name</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Other Information</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Web Page/E-mail</i>
Consumer	Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan Houston, Inc.	(713) 868-9500	Works to protect consumers & responsible businesses from unethical practices & false advertising. Provides simple & economical way for businesses & consumers to resolve disputes.	5225 Katy Freeway, Suite 500 Houston, TX 77007	www.bbbhou.org
Consumer	Harris County District Attorney's Office: Consumer Fraud Division	(713) 755-5836	Assists persons who have been defrauded in consumer transactions. Criminal charges may be warranted in some cases, but in many instances, the Consumer Fraud Division assists the consumer in making a satisfactory disposition of the matter without the necessity of prosecution.	1201 Franklin, Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77002	da@dao.co.harris.tx.us
Consumer	Texas Attorney General's Office: Consumer Protection Division	(713) 223-5886			
Consumer	University of Houston Center for Consumer Law	(713) 743-1000, (800) 947-8858	Educates people about their legal rights & assists them in asserting those rights.	4800 Calhoun Houston, TX 77204	www.uh.edu
Consumer: Consumer Credit	Consumer Credit Counseling Service	(713) 923-2227	Financial counseling & debt management		
Consumer: Product Safety	Product Safety Hotline	(800) 638-8270			
Criminal	Crime Stoppers	713) 222-TIPS			
Criminal	Harris County District Attorney's Office	(713) 755-7114	Files criminal charges, except Class "C" misdemeanors		
Criminal	Harris County Criminal Lawyers Association	(713) 227-2404	Volunteer professional association offering a referral service for individuals needing a criminal attorney (bilingual)		

Criminal: Victim Support	Rape Crisis Hotline-24 hours	(713) 528-RAPE			
Criminal: Victim Support	Victim Assistance Center, Inc.	(713) 755-5625	Comprehensive & extensive services to meet the emotional, physical, informational, & financial needs of the innocent victims of violent crime through both direct & indirect services.	1310 Prairie, Suite 1030 Houston, Texas 77002	victimac@aol.com
Family	Lutheran Social Services of the South, Inc.-Ruth's House Assistance Ministry	(713) 631-3932	Provides free legal counseling, among other services, for unplanned pregnancies, adoptions, & foster care.	10635 Homestead Houston, TX 77037	www.lsss.org
Family	Montgomery County Women's Center	(936) 756-2033	Provides legal representation in areas of divorce, child custody, protective orders, & other family law issues.	719 North Frazier Street Conroe, TX 77301	mcwc@infohwy.com
Family	South Texas College of Law	(713) 652-0009	Legal clinic providing assistance with family and social security issues		
Family, Probate, Civil Rights	NAACP Legal Redress Program	(713) 526-3389	Probate, family law matters		
Family: Child & Elder Abuse	Texas Abuse Hotline	(800) 252-5400	24 hour hotline for abuse & neglect of children & the elderly		
Family: Child Abuse	Children's Protective Services	(713) 394-4000	For placement of children in foster homes & investigating child abuse		
Family: Child Abuse	Harris County District Attorney's Office: Child Abuse Section	(713) 755-5546	Assists child victims of sexual & physical abuse.	1201 Franklin, Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77002	da@dao.co.harris.tx.us
Family: Child Abuse	Justice for Children	(713) 225-4357	Advocates for children who are victims of child abuse.	2600 Southwest Freeway, Suite 806 Houston, Texas 77098	www.jfcadvocacy.org
Family: Child Abuse	Justice for Children 24 hours Hotline	(713) 225-4357	Advocate for criminal abuse		

Family: Child Sexual Abuse	The Children's Assessment Center	(713) 986- 3300	For child victims of sexual abuse		
Family: Child Support	Attorney General's Office - Houston Child Support Office	(281) 820- 1200			
Family: Child Support	Harris County Child Support Office	(713) 755- 6077			
Family: Child Support, Visitation, Paternity	Harris County Domestic Relations Office	(713) 755- 6757	Provides services to establish & enforce court orders for child support & visitation, terminate wage withholding orders, & establish parentage. Provides assistance with collection of child support & ensures visitation/access for children through monitoring compliance with court orders.	1310 Prairie, Suite 700 Houston, Texas 77002	www.co.harris.tx.us/domesticrelats
Family: Domestic Violence, Abuse	Abuse Hotline	(800) 252- 5400	24-hour hotline for abuse & neglect of children & the elderly		
Family: Domestic Violence, Abuse	Adult Protective Services	(713) 767- 2700			
Family: Domestic Violence, Abuse	Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse	(713) 224- 9911	Legal representation for domestic violence victims, including protective orders, divorces, & child custody & support. Obtains civil court orders to protect abused spouses & children.	2603 La Branch, Suite 100 Houston, Texas 77004	www.avda-tx.org
Family: Domestic Violence, Abuse	Crisis Hotline	(713) 468- 5463	24 hour, seven days a week intervention service		

Family: Domestic Violence, Abuse	Harris County District Attorney's Office: Family Violence Unit	(713) 755- 7114	For issues related to parental kidnapping, family violence, interference with child custody, protective orders, bigamy, & criminal non-support.		
Family: Domestic Violence, Abuse	Harris County District Attorney's Office: Family Criminal Law Division	(713) 755- 5888	Assists victims of family violence by filing protective orders & providing crisis intervention & social service referrals. Provides intake of criminal charges for Title VI crimes parental kidnapping, criminal non- support, bigamy, & harboring a runaway.	1201 Franklin, Suite 600 Houston, Texas 77002	da@dao.co.harris.tx.us
Family: Domestic Violence, Abuse	Houston Area Women's Center	(713) 528- 6798 x237	Provides explanation of court system & legal procedures, updates on status of cases, court orientation for children, accompaniment to the District Attorney's Office & to court, assistance in filing for Crime Victims' Compensation, & emotional support throughout the legal process.	1010 Waugh Dr. Houston, TX 77019	www.hawc.org
Family: Domestic Violence, Abuse	Saving Lives Through Alternative Options	(713) 773- 1919	Acts in a proactive manner to avert future cases of child abuse & child neglect.	2315 SW Fwy., Suite 105 Houston, TX 77098	slao@argolink.net
Family: Nursing Home Abuse	Nursing Home Abuse	7137672157, 8004589858	Sponsored by the Texas Dept. of Human Services		
General Civil	Southeast Texas Legal Clinic	(713) 523- 7852			
General Civil	Thurgood Marshall School of Law Legal Clinic	(713) 313- 7275			
General Civil	University of Houston Legal Aid Clinic	(713) 743- 2094			

General Civil: Elder Law	Legal Hotline for Older Texans	(800) 622-2520	Funded by AARP & Texas Equal Access to Justice, for Texans 60 yrs & older-attorneys answer legal questions free, & offer referrals for reduced-rate attorneys		
General Civil: Legal Aid	Lone Star Legal Aid	(713) 652-0077 - main, (713) 652-5911 - alternate intake, (800) 733-8394 tollfree	General civil, family issues, housing & consumer issues, & government benefits. pro-bono legal assistance for non-criminal cases; must meet program requirements	1001 Fannin, Suite 1370 Houston, TX 77002	www.lonestarlegal.org
General Legal	Barratry Hotline	(800) 633-6630	To report for investigation possible unlawful solicitation by an attorney		
General Legal	Dispute Resolution Center/Neighborhood Justice Center	(713) 755-8274	Handles disputes between neighbors, families, friends, consumers, landlords/tenants, employers/employees		
General Legal	Grievance Committee of the State Bar of Texas	(713) 759-6931, (800) 932-1900	Handles complaints against attorneys		
General Legal	Houston Bar Association - LegalLine	(713) 759-1133	Free legal advice over the telephone from volunteer lawyers. 1st & 3rd Wed of the month 5:00pm - 9:00pm; Spanish on 1st Thursday only, 6:00pm - 8:00pm; Vietnamese on 3rd Tuesday only	1001 Fannin, Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77002	www.hba.org
General Legal: Civil	Houston Bar Association - Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program	(713) 228-0735, (713) 228-0732 - intake, (800) 538-7702 tollfree	Family law, property law, landlord/tenant disputes, consumer law, bankruptcy, family-based immigration, wills & probate, guardianship & special projects.	712 Main Street, 27th Floor Houston, TX 77002	www.ehvlp.org
General Legal: Civil	Legal Aid Community Center	(713) 641-2500	Free legal advice & consultation in civil matters for those who qualify under the income eligibility guidelines. For those ineligible, LACC will provide legal services with affordable legal representation.	5330 Griggs, Suite B109 Houston, TX 77021	lacc@earthlink.net

General Legal: Referral	Houston Lawyer Referral Service, Inc.	(713) 237-9429	Provides referrals for competent legal representation.	1001 Fannin, Suite 1370 Houston, TX 77002	www.hlrs.org
General Legal: Referral	Statewide Lawyer Referral Service	(800) 252-9690			
General Legal: Spanish-language	Consejos Legales (Mexican Bar Assn.)	(713) 759-1133	Free legal advice in Spanish, first Thursday of each month, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.		
Probate: Estate, Wills	Civil Rights & Economic Development Organization	(713) 526-3389			

* Please note, this list focuses on organizations that address criminal, family, & consumer law issues. Many groups not included also assist with discrimination, housing, civil rights, immigration, & other issues.